



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**Harbor Hospice and Palliative Care - Meeting You Where You Are**

*Harbor Hospice & Harbor Palliative Care Celebrates  
November's National Hospice and Palliative Care Month*

[Muskegon, Michigan] – Throughout the month of November, Harbor Hospice and Harbor Palliative Care will be joining organizations across the nation in hosting community activities which recognize National Hospice and Palliative Care Month (NHPCM). This year's NHPCM theme is "meeting you where you are."

For more than 40 years, hospice has helped provide interdisciplinary, supportive care to millions of people, allowing them to spend their final months wherever they call home and surrounded by their loved ones. Hospice teams craft plans of care that ensure pain management, therapies, and treatments all center on the patients' and their loved ones' goals and wishes. Hospice care also provides emotional support and advice to help family members become confident caregivers and adjust to the future with grief support for up to a year.

"At the heart of hospice is meeting patients and their loved ones where they are during difficult times when support is needed most," said Ben Marcantonio, COO and Interim CEO of the National Hospice and Palliative Care Organization (NHPCO). "National Hospice and Palliative Care month recognizes the crucial role hospice and palliative care providers play in caring for their communities year-round."

Each year, over one million Medicare beneficiaries receive care from hospices across the United States. When a patient is not eligible for hospice care, they may benefit from community-based palliative care, often offered by hospice providers. Palliative care is patient and family-centered care that optimizes quality of life by anticipating, preventing, and treating suffering. Palliative care throughout the continuum of illness also involves addressing physical, intellectual, emotional, social, and spiritual needs and facilitates patient autonomy through access to information and choice.

"Meeting someone where they are" means putting aside our wants for others we care for and listening to understand where they are in their journey without judgement," said Susan Houseman, President and CEO of Harbor Hospice and Harbor Palliative Care. "National Hospice and Palliative Care Month recognizes the extraordinary work that hospice and palliative care providers and volunteers provide to their communities not only in November but year-round."

More information about hospice, palliative care, and advance care planning is available from Harbor Hospice & Harbor Palliative Care by visiting [HarborHospiceMI.org](http://HarborHospiceMI.org) or from NHPCO's [CaringInfo.org](http://CaringInfo.org).

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